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ABSTRACT

This pamphlet describes the National Household Education Surveys (NHES) program, a system of telephone surveys of the noninstitutionalized civilian population of the United States. This data collection system provides information on a wide range of education-related issues. The surveys provide descriptive data on the educational activities of the U.S. population. About 45,000 to 64,000 households are contacted to identify persons eligible for the surveys, which are conducted by WESTAT through computer-assisted telephone interviewing. The survey topics for 1991 through 2003 are: (1) Adult Education (1991, 1995, 1999, 2001, 2003); (2) Before- and After-School Programs and Activities (1999, 2001); (3) Civic Involvement (1996, 1999); (4) Early Childhood Program Participation (1991, 1995, 1999, 2001); (5) Household and Library Use (1996); (6) Parent and Family Involvement in Education (1996, 1999, 2003); (7) School Readiness (1993, 2003); and (8) School Safety and Discipline (1993). (SLD)

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Learning At All Ages: 1991–2003

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Before- and After-School Programs and Activities

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Parent and Family Involvement in Education

School Readiness

School Safety and Discipline

Office of Educational Research and Improvement
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The National Household Ed

DESIGN

The **National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES)** is a system of telephone surveys of the noninstitutionalized civilian population of the United States. The key design features of the NHES are:

- Households are selected using random digit dialing (RDD) methods.
- About 45,000 to 64,000 households are contacted in order to identify persons eligible for the surveys.
- Data are collected using computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) procedures.

NHES SURVEY TOPICS

Adult Education

The Adult Education surveys include persons age 16 and older who are not enrolled in grade 12 or below. These surveys focus on the following topics:

- Participation in educational activities: basic skills, English as a second language, degree or diploma programs, apprenticeships, work-related courses, and personal interest courses.
- The subject matter and characteristics of educational programs and courses.
- Nonparticipants' interest in educational activities and perceived barriers to participation in adult education.

Before- and After-School Programs and Activities

The Before- and After-School Programs and Activities surveys are administered to parents of children in grades K–8. The surveys focus on the following topics:

- School and homeschooling experiences.
- Nonparental care/programs and self-care.
- Before- and after-school activities.
- Disability status and related services.

Civic Involvement

The Civic Involvement surveys of parents, youth, and adults focus on the following topics:

- School practices and participation in activities that may promote personal responsibility and civic involvement.
- Community service and service learning.
- Attitudes and knowledge related to civic life.

Early Childhood Program Participation

The Early Childhood Program Participation surveys are administered to parents of children from birth through grade 3, with the specific age groups varying by survey year. These surveys focus on the following topics:

- Nonparental care and education.
- Early school experiences.
- Home and out-of-home activities with family members.
- Health and disability status.

Household and Library Use

In 1996, about 56,000 households were screened using an expanded screening procedure that collected demographic and educational information on all household members and included a limited set of items on household use of public libraries.

Parent and Family Involvement in Education

The Parent and Family Involvement in Education surveys focus on children age 3–20 who were enrolled in grade 12 or below. These surveys focus on the following topics:

- Parent and family involvement (including nonresidential parents) in children's schooling and communication with teachers or other school personnel.
- Children's homework and behavior.
- Home and out-of-home activities with family members.
- Information about children's schools or homeschooling.

School Readiness

The School Readiness surveys are conducted with parents of 3- to 7-year-old children. The surveys focus on the following topics:

- Children's developmental accomplishments and difficulties.
- Center-based program participation of preschoolers.
- Early school experiences for elementary students.
- Home and out-of-home activities with family members.
- Health and disability status.

School Safety and Discipline

The School Safety and Discipline survey is administered to youth in grades 6–12 and parents of children in grades 3–12. This survey focuses on the following topics:

- School learning environment and discipline policy.
- Safety at school and victimization.
- Availability and use of alcohol and drugs and alcohol and drug education.
- Peer norms for behavior in school and substance use.

FUTURE COLLECTIONS

The NHES will be conducted again in 2003, and periodically thereafter. The NHES:2003 will include two surveys: Parent and Family Involvement in Education and Adult Education for Work-Related Reasons.

PUBLICATIONS AND DATA PRODUCTS

NHES publications and data products, as well as additional information about the NHES program, are available at **http://nces.ed.gov/NHES.**

The **National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES)** is a data collection system of the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) that is designed to address a wide range of education-related issues. It provides descriptive data on the educational activities of the U.S. population and offers policymakers, researchers, and educators a variety of statistics on the condition of education in the United States.

The NHES was conducted in the spring of 1991, 1993, 1995, 1996, 1999, and 2001. The NHES will be conducted in 2003 and periodically thereafter. Survey topics and their years of administration are:

Adult Education
1991, 1995, 1999, 2001, 2003

Before- and After-School Programs and Activities
1999, 2001

Civic Involvement
1996, 1999

Early Childhood Program Participation
1991, 1995, 1999, 2001

Household and Library Use
1996

Parent and Family Involvement in Education
1996, 1999, 2003

School Readiness
1993, 1999

School Safety and Discipline
1993

Although the primary purpose of the NHES Program is to conduct repeated measurements of the same phenomena at different points in time, one-time surveys on topics of interest to the Department of Education have also been conducted. The 1993 School Safety and Discipline survey and the 1996 Household and Library Use survey were one-time topics in the NHES.

The 1999 surveys were a special end-of-decade NHES collection that repeated many of the topics surveyed in the 1990s.

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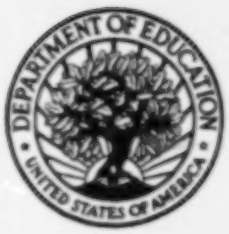

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